



US005825879A

**United States Patent** [19]**Davis**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,825,879**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 20, 1998**

[54] **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COPY-PROTECTING DISTRIBUTED VIDEO CONTENT**

[75] **Inventor:** **Derek L. Davis**, Phoenix, Ariz.

[73] **Assignee:** **Intel Corporation**, Santa Clara, Calif.

[21] **Appl. No.:** **723,830**

[22] **Filed:** **Sep. 30, 1996**

[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>** ..... **H04L 9/00; H04N 7/167**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **380/5; 380/10; 380/52; 380/3; 380/4**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... **380/5, 10, 20, 380/4, 49, 52, 3**

[56] **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

5,046,092 9/1991 Walker et al. .... 380/20  
5,132,992 7/1992 Yurt et al. .... 375/240

5,133,079 7/1992 Ballantyne et al. .... 455/4.1  
5,138,659 8/1992 Kelkar et al. .... 380/20  
5,327,156 7/1994 Masukane et al. .... 345/113  
5,497,419 3/1996 Hill ..... 380/9  
5,671,276 9/1997 Eyer et al. .... 380/4

*Primary Examiner*—Thomas H. Tarcza

*Assistant Examiner*—Pinchus M. Laufer

*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A secure video content processor ("SVCP") which receives encrypted digital video information and converts it into analog information for a monitor while preventing unauthorized access to the intermediate unencrypted digital data. The SVCP uses hardware envelopes to prevent unauthorized access to the decrypted digital stream. When a need arises to transmit digital data outside the hardware envelope, the digital data is encrypted and then decrypted when it re-enters a hardware protected section of circuitry.

**13 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**